

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

SAM-01 EUR-12 /080 W

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R 261555Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7069

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 5746

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JO, MO

SUBJECT: HUSSEIN VISIT

1. JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN, ACCOMPANIED BY PRIMIN RIFAI, WAS GUEST OF KING HASSAN NOVEMBER 23-25 AFTER ATTENDING FRANCO OBSEQUIES AND JUAN CARLOS SWEARING IN. VISIT PUBLICLY TREATED AS LITTLE MORE THAN SOCIAL CALL ON FRIEND AND BROTHER MONARCH.

2. JORDANIAN MINISTER COUNSELOR TOLD US NOV 26 THAT RABAT VISIT HAD BEEN SET UP AT LAST MOMENT, WHEN HUSSEIN HAD DECIDED TO HEAD JORDANIAN DELEGATION TO MADRID IN PLACE OF PRINCE HASSAN. AN OFFICIAL VISIT BY HUSSEIN TO MOROCCO HAD BEEN DECIDED IN PRINCIPLE AT LAST YEAR'S RABAT SUMMIT, BUT NOTHING HAD COME OF IT.

3. THE JORDANIAN ALSO INDICATED THAT MIDDLE EAST SITUATION AND SYRIA IN PARTICULAR HAD BEEN DISCUSSED, BUT SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGES HAD BEEN VERY BRIEF. PRIMIN RIFAI HAD NOT SAT IN, A FURTHER SIGN NOT MUCH BUSINESS HAD BEEN CONDUCTED. IN REPLY TO QUESTION, SOURCE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT KING HASSAN HAD NOT BEEN ENGAGED MUCH RECENTLY AS INTERMEDIARY WITH PLO, NOTWITHSTANDING HASSAN'S REVELATION AT NOV 25 PRESS CONFERENCE OF ROLE IN HELPING ESTABLISH PLO

OFFICE IN PARIS. SOURCE SPECULATED THAT HASSAN'S ATTITUDE TOWARD PLO HAD COOLED RECENTLY BECAUSE OF LACK OF PLO SUPPORT FOR MOROCCO'S
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SAHARA CAMPAIGN. MEANWHILE, JORDANIAN-MOROCCAN RELATIONS

WERE EXPANDING, WITH, FOR EXAMPLE, 400 JORDANIAN
TEACHERS EXPECTED IN COMING YEAR; ALSO, JORDANIAN DIPLOMATS
MOVING SOON TO BIGGER EMBASSY TO ACCOMMODATE INCREASED STAFF.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975RABAT05746
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750413-0133
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975117/aaaaaflm.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <31 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUSSEIN VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, JO, MO, (HUSAYN), (HASSAN II), (RIFAI, ZAYD AL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006